

# ROTOVUE



## 2009 Year in Review

2009 marked a year of noteworthy achievements and historic events for 'Team New River,' including the East Coast's final transition from the CH-46E 'Sea Knight' to the MV-22B 'Osprey'

**A**s 2009 has officially come to an end, we at the Joint Public Affairs Office wish to extend to the readers of the RotoVue our best wishes for the coming year. We hope you have enjoyed the changes we have made to the RotoVue throughout the year and please remember that we always welcome new ideas from our readers.

Before we get too far into the new year, we thought we would give our readers a photo recap of the many events throughout 2009. This year seemed to be the year of 'out with the old, in with the new' as we said goodbye to the CH-46 'Sea Knight' and made a full transition to the MV-22 'Osprey.' Though this issue does not encompass every event that took place here in 2009, it is our hope you will find a few of your favorites.

As we begin another year, we look forward to bringing you a newspaper full of Marines, moments and machines that shape our Corps.

**- Cpl. Kimberly Crawford**  
**RotoVue Press Chief**

A CH-46 'Sea Knight' is taxied off the runway of the Air Station flightline after its final flight with an operational squadron while an MV-22 'Osprey' sits in wait of its next flight. As the Corps expands, so does its capabilities and this event is no different. To meet operational demands the Air Station has made a full transition from the 'Sea Knight' to the 'Osprey.' Photo by Cpl. John Scott Rafoss

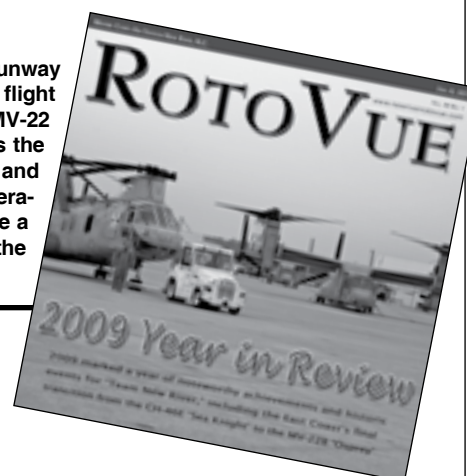
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Col. Darrell L. Thacker Jr., relinquished command of New River to Col. Jeffrey M. Hewlett



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New River Knights win Base Intramural Football League championship game



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Motorcycle Safety Classes are available for military sports bikes, experienced riders and basic riders aboard the Station. For more information on times and dates call Barry Johnson, traffic safety specialist, at 449-4424 or e-mail at barry.johnson@usmc.mil.

Throughout the year the DeLaio Parent Teacher Association collects Box Tops for Education, Tyson's A++, and Campbell's labels. They earn 10 cents for each Box Top collected from General Mills products. Anyone can collect and drop off at the school's front office.

The Officers' Club offers lunch to all ranks from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily. The club also offers Happy Hour from 5-6 p.m. For more information about O'Club events, call 449-6409. For information regarding other clubs, call 449-6707/5145.

Our Military Kids grants are given to honor the sacrifices that military families make and to ensure that their children have access to sports, fine arts or academic tutoring programs. For more information visit <http://www.ourmilitarykids.org/>

# ROTOVUE

MCAS New River's Official Publication  
2009

[www.newriverrotovue.com](http://www.newriverrotovue.com)

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# To the MCAS New River Family,



2009 was a year of great activity and progress aboard Marine Corps Air Station New River. The year presented great challenges for our operational

units and their families. It was also a year of great challenge and activity on the part of the Air Station staff, with a truly tremendous amount of construction occurring. These efforts resulted in the completion of several installation projects to include the new community center, auto hobby shop and car wash; refurbishment of the enlisted club, bowling alley and theater and ground breaking for the new dining facility, four additional new barracks and a new front

gate entrance to the base.

2010 appears to offer us a slight break in operational tempo given the draw down in Iraq, but that tempo is likely to increase again in 2011 with President Barack Obama's renewed commitment to the conflict in Afghanistan and the prominent role that II Marine Expeditionary Force will play in that commitment. Let us keep our deploying Marines, sailors and families in our thoughts and prayers throughout the new year.

You should be justifiably proud of the role that your New River-based Marines have assumed in these trying times in keeping our homeland safe from those who would do us harm. Thanks also to all our Marines, sailors, civilians and their families for their patience and support as we continue to improve the security posture of our installation to keep all safe. We must always remember

our freedoms have been purchased with the blood and loss of many. We should all remember that cost as we embark on this new year and renew our dedication to country and Corps.

Another year of growth and operational activity is now upon us. We will continue to break ground on many new projects and enhance our capabilities to support tenant commands.

I would like to extend my personal gratitude to all who contribute to this installation's success. I am truly confident that with our continued commitment to operational readiness, safety and taking care of our people, 2010 will be another monumental year for "Team New River," full of progress and noteworthy achievements.

**- Col. Jeffrey M. Hewlett**  
Air Station  
Commanding Officer



## HML/A-269 in Afghanistan

**Jan. 12 -**

Marines prepare an AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter for takeoff on the flightline of Camp Bastion, Helmand province, Afghanistan. The Marines of Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron 269, a section of the air combat element of Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force - Afghanistan, provide support to 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, the ground combat element of SPMAGTF-A whose mission is to conduct counterinsurgency operations, and train and mentor the Afghan National Police. Photo by Lance Cpl.

Brian Jones





# Fallen service members from Beirut, Lebanon bombing honored



**Oct. 23 -** Drill squad Marines fire their weapons during a wreath laying ceremony at the Beirut Memorial in Jacksonville, N.C., October 23. The ceremony honored the 241 American service members killed in the Beirut Barracks Bombing on the morning of Oct. 23, 1983. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Brittany J. Kohler*

## NEW RIVER THEATER

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|            |           |                            |       |
|------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------|
| Wed Dec 30 | 7:00 p.m. | The Fourth Kind            | PG-13 |
| Fri Jan 1  | 7:00 p.m. | The Fourth Kind            | PG-13 |
|            | 9:30 p.m. | The Men who Stare at Goats | R     |
| Sat Jan 2  | 7:00 p.m. | The Fourth Kind            | PG-13 |
|            | 9:30 p.m. | Pirate Radio               | R     |
| Sun Jan 3  | 3:00 p.m. | Planet 51                  | PG    |
|            | 6:00 p.m. | Pirate Radio               | R     |
| Mon Jan 4  | 7:00 p.m. | Pirate Radio               | R     |
| Wed Jan 6  | 7:00 p.m. | 2012                       | PG-13 |
| Fri Jan 8  | 7:00 p.m. | Planet 51                  | PG    |
|            | 9:30 p.m. | 2012                       | PG-13 |
| Sat Jan 9  | 7:00 p.m. | Planet 51                  | PG    |
|            | 9:30 p.m. | Twilight Saga: New Moon    | PG-13 |
| Sun Jan 10 | 3:00 p.m. | 2012                       | PG    |
| Mon Jan 11 | 7:00 p.m. | Twilight Saga: New Moon    | PG-13 |
| Wed Jan 13 | 9:30 a.m. | Twilight Saga: New Moon    | PG-13 |
|            | 7:00 p.m. | Ninja Assassin             | R     |



# Station welcomes new CO



**July 17 -**

Col. Jeffrey M. Hewlett gives his first speech as the Station's new commanding officer, during a change of command ceremony at the Air Station Operations Center, where he assumed command from Col. Darrell L. Thacker, Jr. Photo by Lance Cpl. Charles S. Howard



# Urgent Response 2009

**April 30 -**

Emergency responders decontaminate a Marine who has been 'exposed' to a hazardous material from a simulated attack during Exercise Urgent Response 2009, an exercise designed to strengthen the Air Station's capabilities to respond to terrorist attacks. Photo by Sgt. Nikki M. Herman

# Braving the elements

**Dec. 5-17**

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 braved the winds and cold temperatures as they participate in a 12-day training exercise in the desert of New Mexico. The squadron trained at Kirtland Air Force Base near Albuquerque, where they capitalized on the region's unique mountainous terrain to focus on squadron-level training in a high altitude desert environment. *Photo by Cpl. Brandon Dulaney*







A CH-53 Super Stallion, assigned to the Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 464, lands on the northern coast of Djibouti on Nov. 11. The helicopter was picking up Marines, sailors and airmen who attended a remembrance observance honoring their fallen brethren; eight Marines and two airmen who died in the Gulf of Aden Feb. 17, 2006, when their aircraft collided during a training flight. *Photo by Staff Sgt. Ronald Lafosse*



(Above) MV-22B Ospreys from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 263 (Reinforced), 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, prepare to take off from the flight deck of the USS Bataan Nov. 6. The aircraft were flown to Camp Bastion, Afghanistan, where they were transferred to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 261 and used in support of 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade. The event marked the Osprey's first deployment to Afghanistan. *Photo by MC2 (SW) Julio N. Rivera*

(Right) Cpl. Travis Gallant, a flightline mechanic with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 167, completes checks on a UH-1N Huey rotor head aboard Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, July 31. HML/A-167 was on their fifth deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. *Photo by Cpl. Jennifer Poole*



Marines with Marine Medium Tilt-rotor Squadron 266 clean the outside of an MV-22B Osprey aboard Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, April 4, in preparation to return home. The process, often called the "desnail" procedure, is a thorough cleaning of the aircraft's inside and outside. *Photo by Cpl. Ryan Young*

# FROM AROUND THE CORPS

For additional stories and photos log onto <http://www.marines.mil>.





# Memorial run for freedom

**Sept. 26 -**  
Runners participate in a 5K race during the 1st Lt. Jared M. Landaker Memorial Run for Freedom sponsored by Marine Corps Aviation Association McCutcheon Squadron at the Station Officers' Club Sept. 26. *Photo by Cpl. Cecilia N. Rooks*

# New River team wins ARFF Rodeo



**Oct. 24 -**  
From left to right, Cpl. Caleb Hayre, Lance Cpl. Ethan Sleezer, Sgt Jose Gutierrez, Lance Cpls. Chris Collins, Andrew Kush, Adam Schnider and Tom Newman from the Air Station Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting take in the glory after winning the 23rd East Coast ARFF Rodeo at the Quantico Marine Corps Air Facility. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Lucas G. Lowe*

MARINES





# Station celebrates Marine aviation, honors fallen

MOMENTS



## May 22 -

The Air Station held a Warrior Night May 21 in memoriam of the Marines and sailors killed in Marine aircraft during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, and a Warrior Day in celebration of the birth of Marine aviation. (Right) Station Marines look at 'Panchito,' a B-25 bomber used by Marines during World War II. The aircraft, along with many others, were displayed on the flightline during Warrior Day. Photo by Sgt. Thomas J. Griffith



REMEMBER TO RECYCLE









## New River Knights win championship

**Dec. 7 -**

The Air Station's New River Knights celebrate after winning the Base Intramural Football League championship game against the II Marine Division team with a score of 33-31 aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. Photo by Lance Cpl. Jason Hernandez



## Rumble on the River

**Nov. 4 -**

North American Boxing Federation boxers Jason Rorie and Yaundale Evans duke it out at the Air Station corrosion control hangar during ESPN's first live broadcast in its week-long tribute, "America's Heroes: A Salute to Our Veterans." Photo by Lance Cpl. Charles S. Howard



## New River takes second place

**Aug. 27 -**

Tom Pitroff nails one of Team New River's many hits during the championship game of the Eastern Regional Softball championship. Team New River fell 8-5 to the South Carolina Marines and took second in the tournament. Photo by Cpl. Brandon Dulaney

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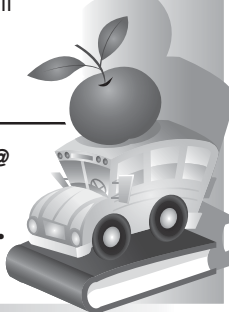
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# Freezin' for a Reason

**Jan. 10 -**  
The 2009 Polar Plunge left 315 willing participants with cold feet after taking a dip in the cold waters of Onslow Beach. The annual plunge is designed to give individuals, organizations and businesses the opportunity to raise money for Onslow County Special Olympics. The 2010 Polar Plunge is scheduled for Jan. 9. *Photo by Sgt. Katelyn Lopez*





## Keepin' it green during Spring Clean

**April 8 -**

Students from the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training pick up trash during the Air Station's Spring Clean 2009 along the New River shoreline. *Photo by Sgt. Thomas J. Griffith*



## Botswana Defense Force visits Air Station

**Sept. 30 -**

Members of the Botswana Defense Force view an AH-1W Super Cobra static display at Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 167 during a visit to the Air Station as part of a larger tour of military installations in the area. *Photo by Sgt. Heather L. Brewer*



# Station active in community



**Dec. 18 -**

Staff Sgt. Jacob Taylor, air traffic controller and president of the Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Motorcycle Club, talks to kindergartners from Belvoir Elementary School before letting them check out the club riders' bikes. Eleven club members went to the school, located in Greenville, N.C., to spread holiday cheer to the children by handing out Christmas gifts. *Photo by Cpl. Kimberly Crawford*



**May 13 -**

Sgt. Michael Kelliher, Center for Naval Aviation and Technical Training airframes instructor, dances with his date, Martha, at the Britthaven Nursing Home Prom. About 25 Marines volunteered with the Single Marine Program to escort Britthaven residents to the dance. *Photo by Sgt. Nikki M. Herman*



**Nov. 9 -**

Col. Jeffrey M. Hewlett, Air Station commanding officer, gives a presentation to first graders at Southwest Elementary School in Jacksonville, N.C. The students learned about what New River is all about, what it takes to be a Marine, and a little about each aircraft aboard the Air Station. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Brittany J. Kohler*



**Nov. 20 -**

Cpl. Trenton D. Tucker, Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting rescueman, shows a first grader from Stateside Elementary School the inside of P-19 rescue truck and required gear for aircraft fire fighting missions, Nov. 20. The 110-student group visited ARFF, Air Traffic Control and Center of Naval Aviation and Technical Training to learn about the different responsibilities Marines have within the Air Station. *Photo by Sgt. Jonathan T. Spencer*



# Ground-breaking year



**Oct. 19**

Col. Jeffrey M. Hewlett, right, Air Station commanding officer, and Master Sgt. Jesse Munoz, Mess Hall liaison officer, participate in a ground-breaking ceremony for the new 31,075 square-foot Station dining facility. The \$12.3 million project will be capable of supporting food service requirements for 2,200 service members daily and is scheduled to be complete in December. *Photos by Sgt. Nikki M. Herman*



**May 7**

Construction workers with the Whiting-Turner Contracting Company work on a new aircraft maintenance hangar on the Air Station flightline. The \$35 million project broke ground April 10, 2008 and is slated to be completed by May 2010. *Photos by Cpl. John Scott Rafoss*



**Sept. 17**

Service members and their families gather at McCutcheon Manor for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of the new Community Center on the Air Station, Sept. 17. Atlantic Marine Corps Communities spent roughly nine months building the state-of-the-art 4,000 square-foot facility for base residents. *Photos by Sgt. Nikki M. Herman*

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